

North Grampian

Including North and West Cairngorms National Park, Monadhliath, Ben Alder, Creag Meagaidh, Loch Ercht and Loch Rannoch

Forecast valid from 06:00 on Friday 21 May 2021 until 23:59 on Saturday 22 May 2021

Forecast Issued on Friday 21 May 2021 at 03:40 by Met Office Aberdeen

Confidence: High for almost winter like conditions on Friday and for a change drier, brighter day on Saturday. Some uncertainties in the timing of rain and hill snow arriving on Sunday.

Headline for Friday 21 May 2021: Wet and windy with snow falling to increasingly low levels.

Mountain weather hazards on Friday 21 May 2021

Blizzards
Medium Likelihood

Heavy Snow
Medium Likelihood

Storm force winds
No Likelihood

Gales
Medium Likelihood

Severe chill effect
High Likelihood

Poor visibility
High Likelihood

Thunderstorms
No Likelihood

Heavy persistent rain
Medium Likelihood

Strong sunlight
No Likelihood

Weather and chance of precipitation at 800m					
Time					
06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00
					
Sleet	Sleet	Heavy snow	Heavy snow	Heavy snow	Light snow
Precipitation probability					
90%	90%	90%	80%	70%	50%

Forecast for Friday 21 May 2021

Weather: Strong to gale force northeast winds will bring persistent and often heavy rain (snow above 1000m) across all ranges through much of the morning. Creag Meagaidh and Ben Alder seeing some short drier spells. Winds will turn northerly through afternoon bringing colder air, so the snow level will fall to around 400m by evening, this heaviest across the northern Cairngorms where blizzards are most likely.

Chance of cloud free mountain/hill tops above 800m: Virtually no chance.

Visibility: Widely hazy at lower levels in rain and drizzle and extensively poor at height in cloud, rain and snow. Blizzard conditions probable through afternoon and evening.

Forecast for Friday 21 May 2021

Height (m)	Wind Speed mean/gusts (mph)				Wind Direction (blowing from)		
	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
1300	38/49 NE	36/48 NE	37/49 NE	37/49 N	36/48 N	35/46 N	32/43 N
900	33/41 NE	33/42 NE	33/43 NE	31/41 NE	29/38 N	25/34 N	24/32 N
600	24/30 NE	24/33 NE	24/33 NE	23/32 NE	21/30 N	17/24 N	15/22 N
300	13/28 NE	14/30 NE	15/33 NE	15/32 NE	13/28 N	10/22 N	10/22 N
Glen	6/24 NE	8/26 NE	10/29 NE	9/28 N	8/25 N	6/19 N	5/19 N

Height (m)	Temperature / Feels Like (°C)						
	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
1300	-0/-10	-1/-10	-2/-11	-3/-12	-4/-14	-4/-14	-5/-14
900	3/-5	2/-5	1/-7	0/-8	-1/-9	-1/-9	-2/-9
600	4/-2	4/-2	3/-3	2/-5	1/-6	1/-5	0/-5
300	6/2	6/2	5/1	4/-1	3/-2	3/-1	2/-1
Glen	5/2	6/3	6/2	5/1	5/1	4/0	3/-0
Freezing Level*	1300m	1200m	1000m	800m	700m	600m	600m

*Level above which ground is expected to be frozen/snow is expected to settle.

Met Office Aberdeen Meteorologist's View

Wet, windy and increasingly cold conditions, combined with sub-zero summit temperatures and heavy snow will lead to a real risk of cold weather exposure.

Forecast for Saturday 22 May 2021

Weather: Snow will clear away east through the early hours to leave a brighter, drier and less windy day compared to Friday but cold conditions will remain in charge. Northerly winds will bring a few passing showers, these wintry above 600-800m. Strong sunshine in between showers. Dry and increasingly clear through evening.

Maximum wind: Northwest 20-30mph, easing through evening.

Chance of cloud free mountain/hill tops above 800m: 80%.

Visibility: Showers will accompany patches of cloud around 600-800m through morning but the cloud base will gradually lift towards munro level by afternoon. Poor visibility expected around showers, otherwise very good.

Temperature: **Glens:** Plus 3-5 rising 8-10 Celsius.
At 800m: Around freezing.
Freezing level: 600-800m.